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THE ISLAND AT THE TOP OF THE WORLD

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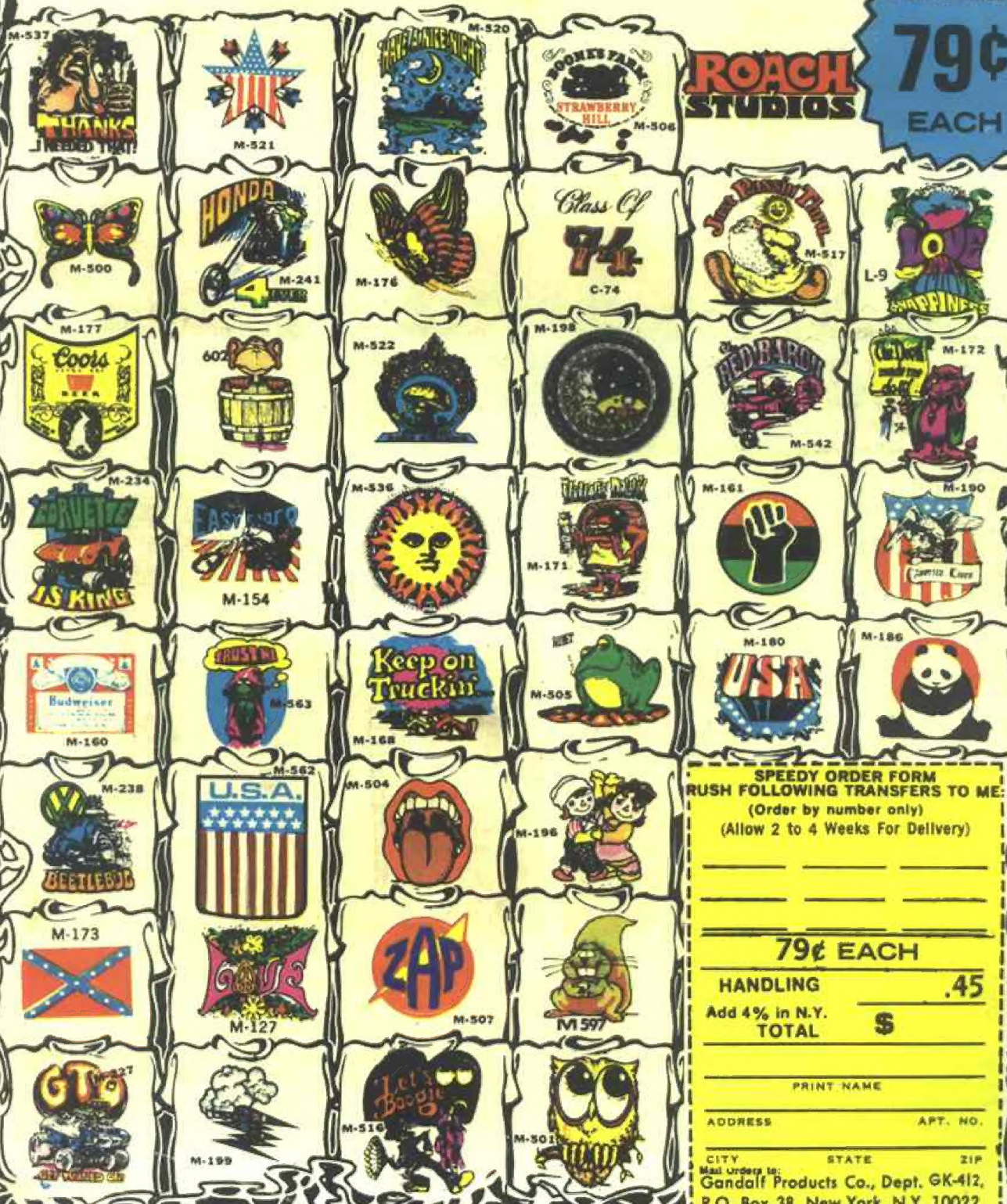
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WALT DISNEY Productions

# THE ISLAND AT THE TOP OF THE WORLD

IT IS THE TURN OF THE CENTURY, AND THE ARCTIC IS STILL A GREAT UNKNOWN. ONLY THE MOST INTREPID CHALLENGE ITS ICY BARRIERS! NO WONDER THEN THAT THE SIGHT OF A STRANGE CRAFT IN THE AIR ABOVE ELLESMERE ISLAND CAUSES PANIC AMONG THE ESKIMOS THERE!



IN THE GONDOLA OF THE AIRSHIP "HYPERION" ARE CAPTAIN BRIEUX, COMMANDER OF THE CRAFT, AND BRITISH INDUSTRIALIST SIR ANTHONY ROSS...

ALSO ABOARD ARE JOHN IVARSSON, AN ARCHAEOLOGIST AND AN AUTHORITY ON NORSE CULTURE, AND AN ESKIMO NAMED OOMIAK!



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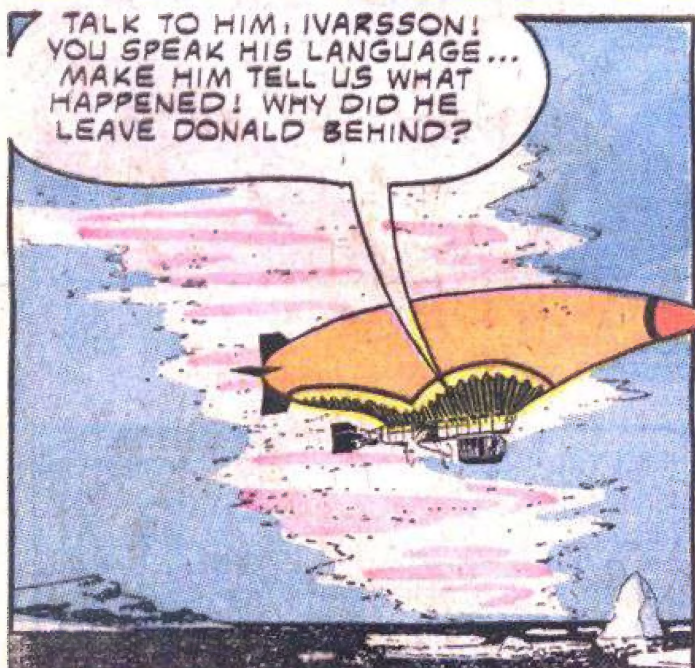
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IT **DOES** EXIST! IT **MUST** EXIST! MY SON WENT THERE...WENT LOOKING FOR THE GRAVEYARD OF THE WHALES! AND THAT... THAT ESKIMO WENT WITH HIM!

I'M SURE THAT'S A THING THAT OOMIAK GREATLY REGRETS!



TALK TO HIM, IVARSSON! YOU SPEAK HIS LANGUAGE... MAKE HIM TELL US WHAT HAPPENED! WHY DID HE LEAVE DONALD BEHIND?

WHEN HE HEARS THESE WORDS, THE ESKIMO STRAIGHTENS AND...



I NOT LEAVE DONALD! WE...WE FIND ISLAND, BUT SPIRITS MAKE BIG STORM! WE ARE BLIND IN BIG STORM!



WHEN STORM OVER, I SEARCH MANY HOURS! NO DONALD! I TELL TRUTH!

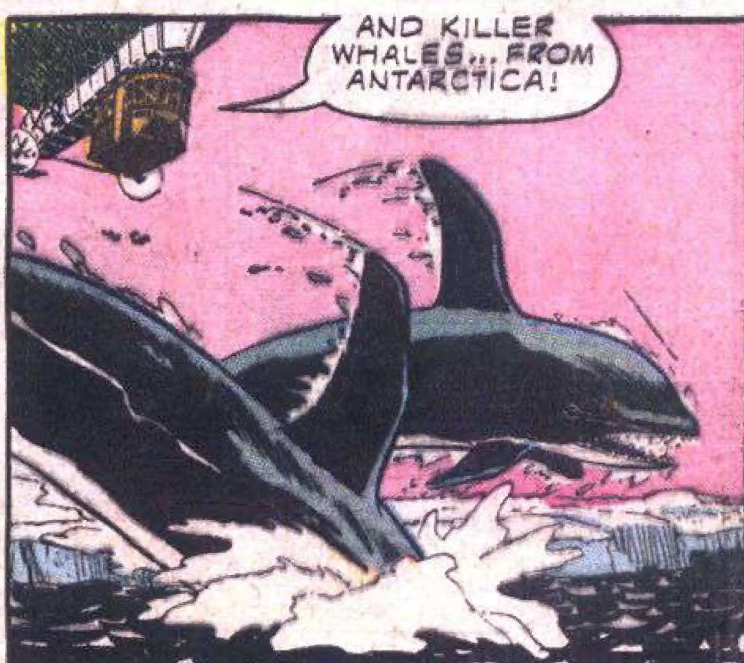
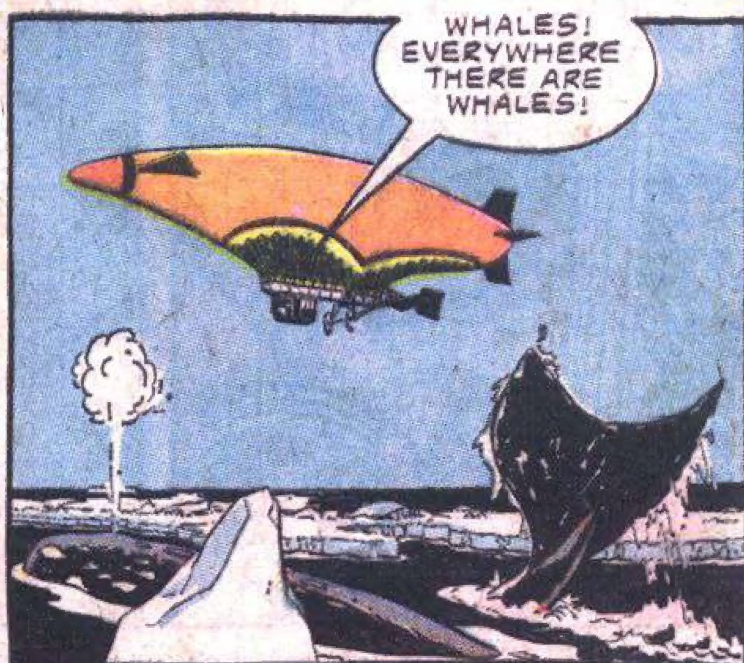


YOU DONALD'S FATHER! I DONALD'S FRIEND!

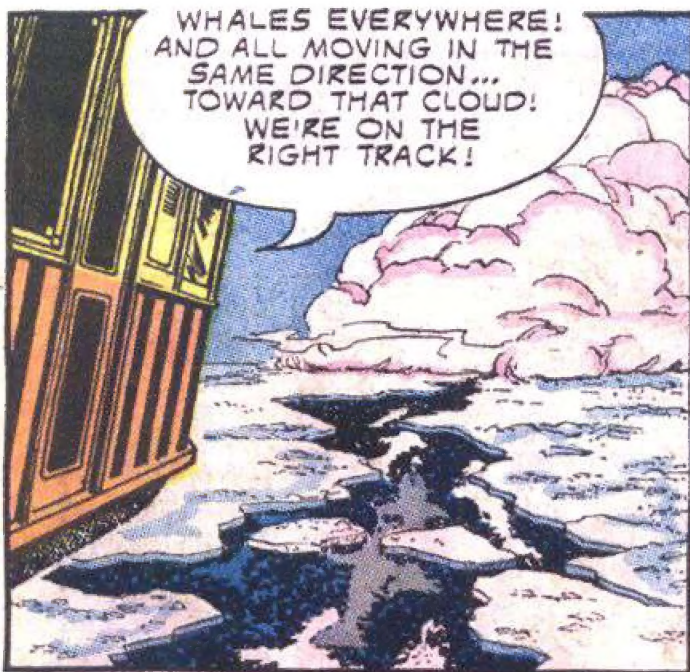
I... I AM SORRY, OOMIAK, BUT...BUT NOW YOU MUST HELP US SEARCH... AGAIN!



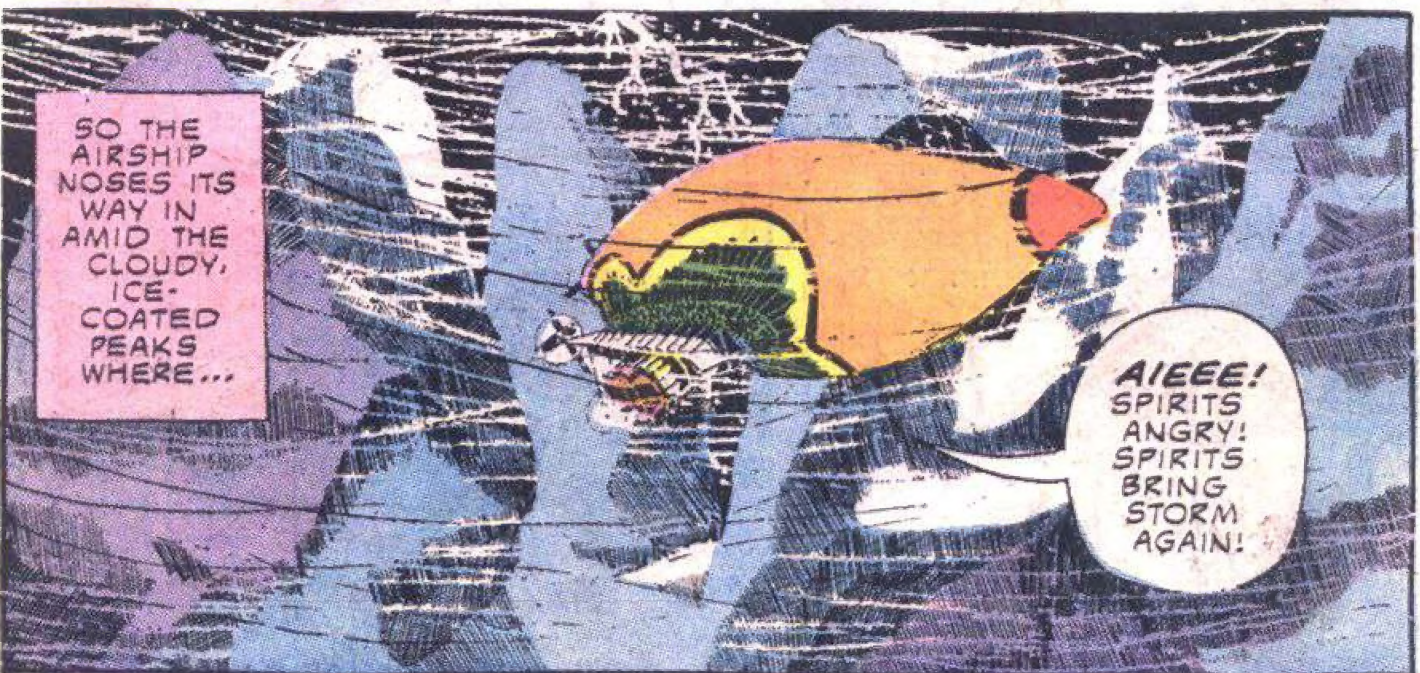
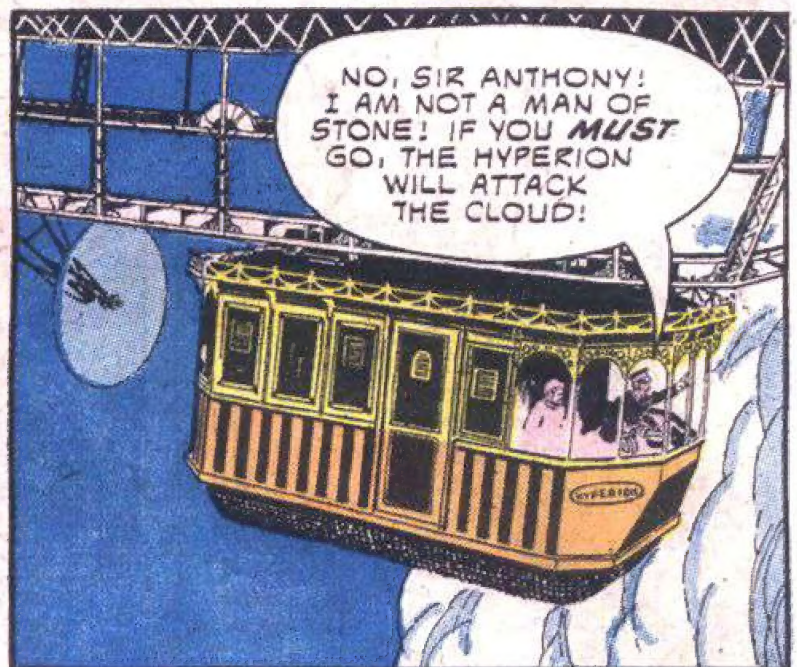
SO THE HYPERION, CARRYING THE RESEARCHERS AND THE FRIGHTENED ESKIMO, FLIES NORTH UNTIL...



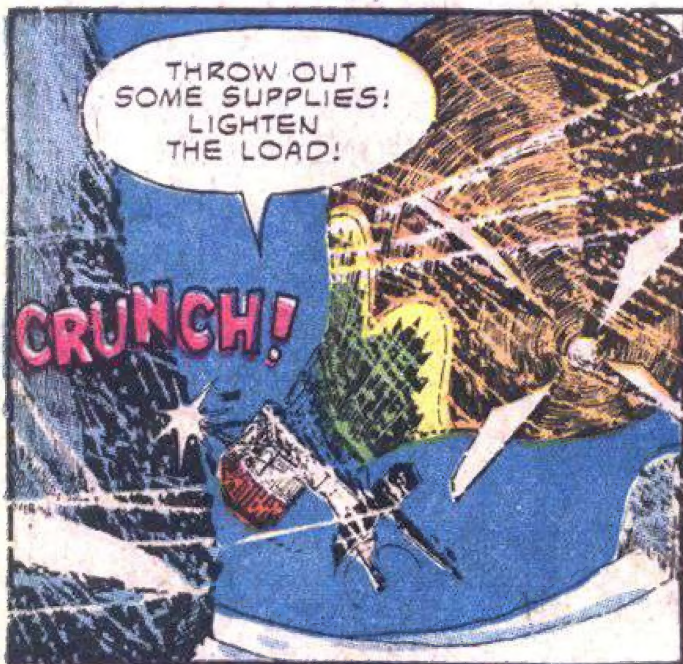




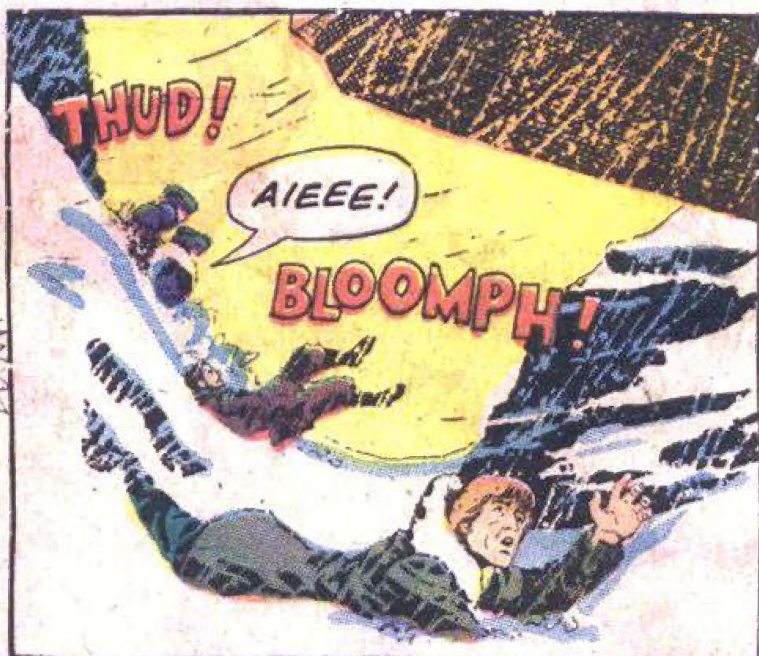
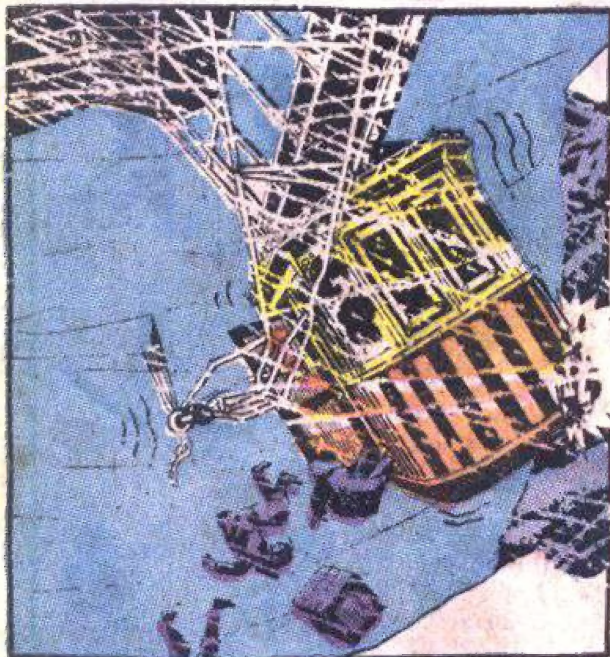
AS THE HYPERION NEARS THE CLOUD,  
HOWEVER...







BUT WHEN IVARSSON OPENS THE DOOR OF THE GONDOLA TO PUSH OUT A CRATE...



THE DESPERATE CAPTAIN WATCHES HELPLESSLY FROM THE GONDOLA AS HIS SHIP IS SWEEPED UP RAPIDLY, AWAY FROM HIS COMRADES...



...AND IT DISAPPEARS IN THE MISTY CLOUDS, LEAVING THREE CASTAWAYS ALONE IN THE ICY WILDERNESS!





THE THREE MEN CLIMB THROUGH THE MISTS TO THE TOP OF A RING OF CLIFFS, AND...

SIR ANTHONY!  
LOOK!

INCREDIBLE! I CAN'T BELIEVE IT! ALL THIS ICE AND SNOW... AND THEN A GREEN, FERTILE VALLEY!

AND A TOWN!

THIS ISLAND IS VOLCANIC! THE HEAT MUST COME UP THROUGH FISSURES IN THE GROUND!

WHAT...?

AIEEE! THE SPIRITS!

THWACK!

OUT OF THE MISTS AND THE GLOOM, THE "SPIRITS" WHOM OOMIAK DREAMS DO APPEAR!

THE SPIRITS!  
THE SPIRITS WHO MAKE THE STORM!

WHY... WHY THEY LOOK LIKE THE ANCIENT VIKINGS!

GOOD HEAVENS!



IF THEY ARE SPIRITS, THEY ARE NOT FRIENDLY SPIRITS. IVARSSON, ROSS AND OOMIAK ARE FORCED TO MARCH DOWN A ROUGH TRAIL TOWARD THE VALLEY...

THEY SPEAK NORSE — THE OLD NORSE OF THE SAGAS! IT'S A LOT LIKE MODERN ICELANDIC! I BELIEVE THEY THINK WE'RE INVADERS, COME TO TAKE THEIR LAND!

WHO CARES WHAT THEY THINK! THERE ARE PEOPLE HERE, AND THAT MEANS **DONALD** COULD BE HERE — ALIVE!

WHEN THEY HAVE LEFT THE SNOW BEHIND, THE VIKINGS AND THEIR CAPTIVES STOP TO EAT, AND IVARSSON IS ABLE TO COMMUNICATE WITH THEM...

AMAZING! THEIR ANCESTORS WERE PART OF AN EARLY VIKING EXPEDITION! IN A STORM, SOME OF THEIR SHIPS WERE SWEEPED INTO THE ARCTIC OCEAN...

"AFTER GREAT HARDSHIPS, THEY FOUND THIS ISLAND! THEY'VE LIVED HERE EVER SINCE... COMPLETELY ISOLATED FROM THE REST OF THE WORLD!"

"THEY CALL THE LAND **ASTRAGARD**, AND BELIEVE IT IS THE GARDEN OF THE GODS, UNIQUE AND SET APART FOREVER..."

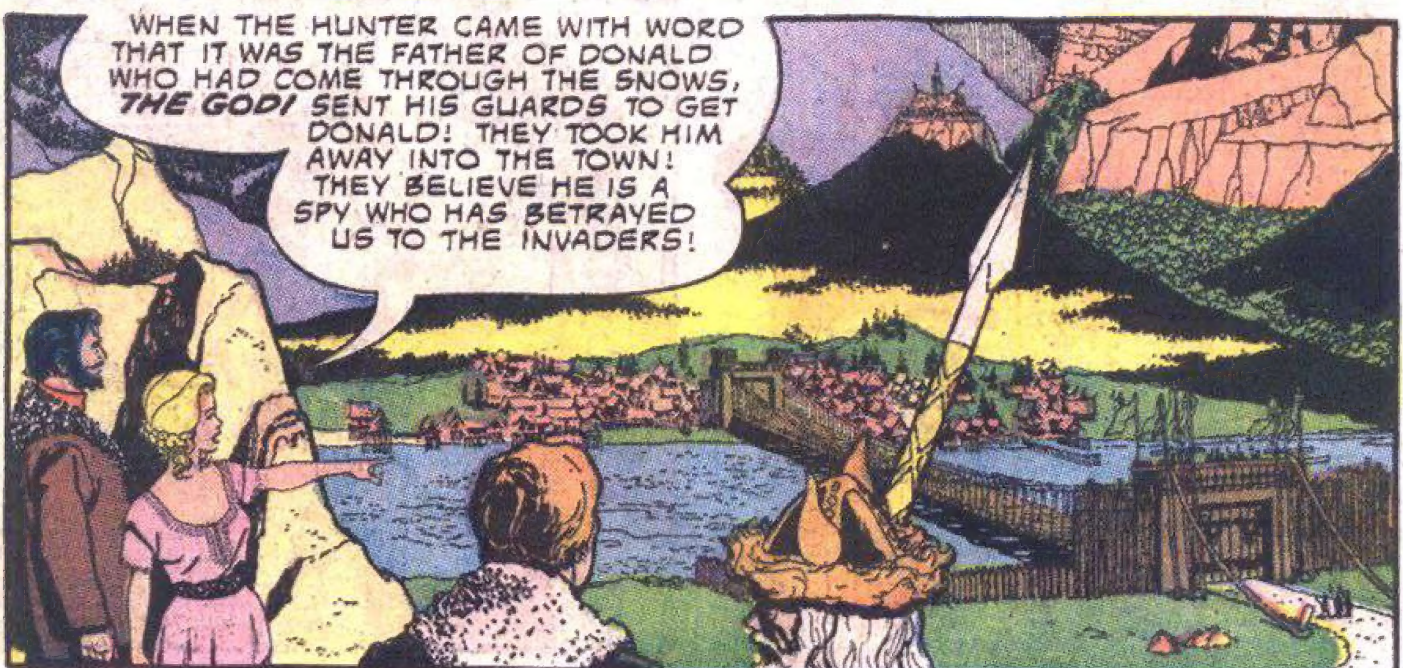
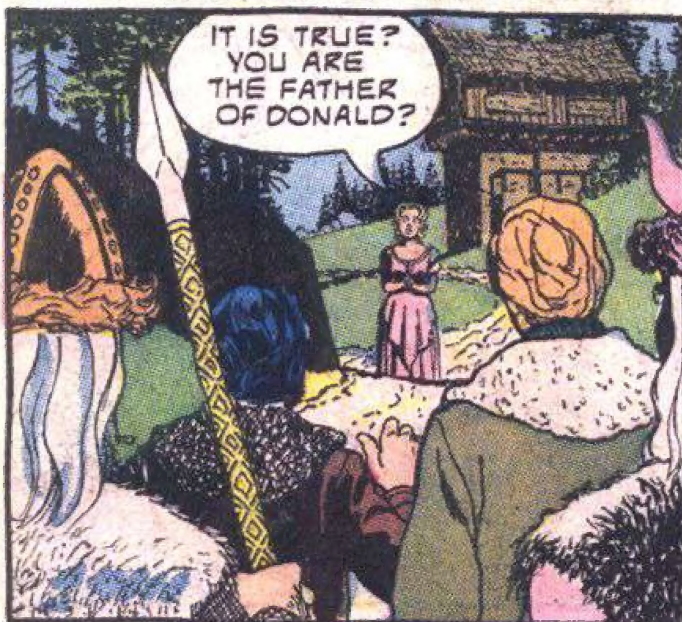




WHEN IVARSSON ASKS THIS QUESTION, THE VIKING BOUNDS AWAY DOWN THE TRAIL...



AS THEY APPROACH THE TOWN...







THE GUARDS CROWD CLOSE TO  
IVARSSON, AND OOMIAK SEES  
HIS CHANCE...





THEIR ROUTE TO THE  
TEMPLE OF LAWS IS  
LINED WITH HOSTILITY...



THERE'S  
OUR  
TEMPLE!

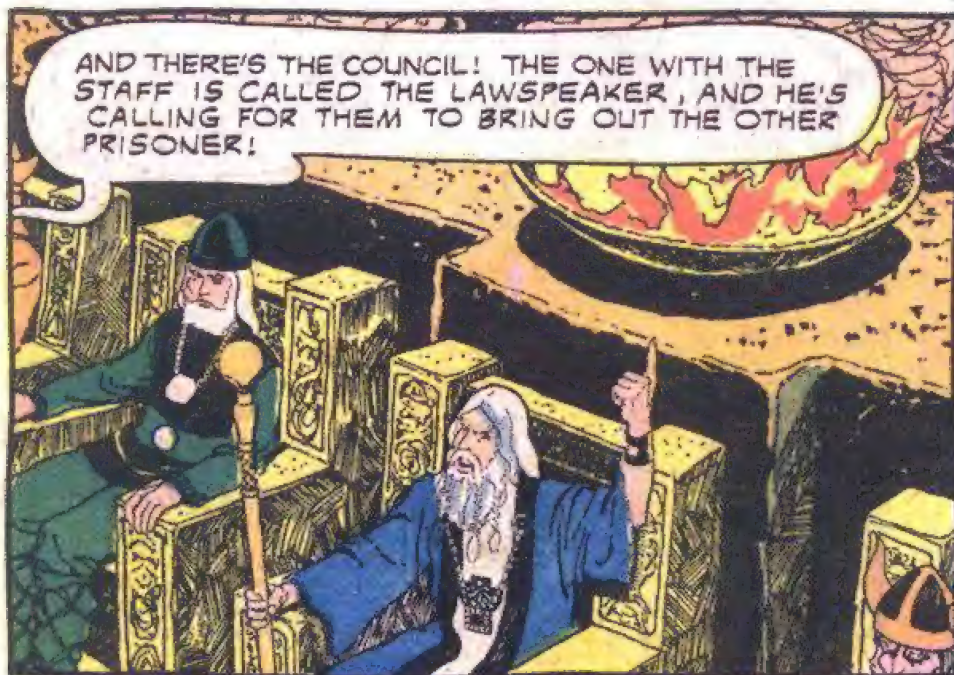
I DON'T LIKE  
THE LOOKS OF  
THIS CROWD!  
THE SOONER WE  
GET INSIDE,  
THE BETTER!



STATUES OF ODIN,  
THOR AND FREY, THE  
GREATEST OF THE  
VIKING GODS!

I HOPE  
THEY'RE ON  
OUR SIDE! WE  
MAY NEED ALL  
THE HELP WE  
CAN GET!

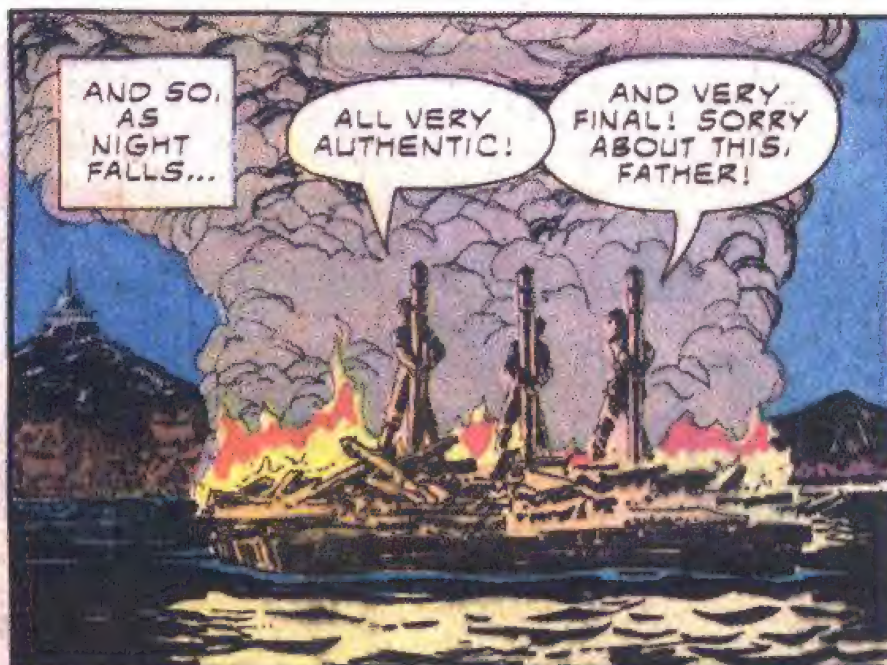




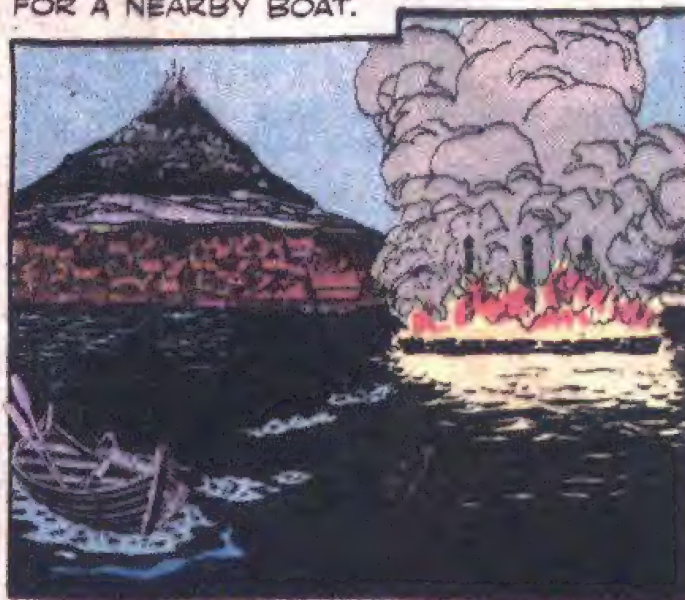
DONALD ROSS TRANSLATES THE GODI'S HARANGUE FOR HIS FATHER...







FREYJA QUICKLY CUTS THEIR BONDS AND MOMENTS LATER FOUR SWIMMERS HEAD FOR A NEARBY BOAT.



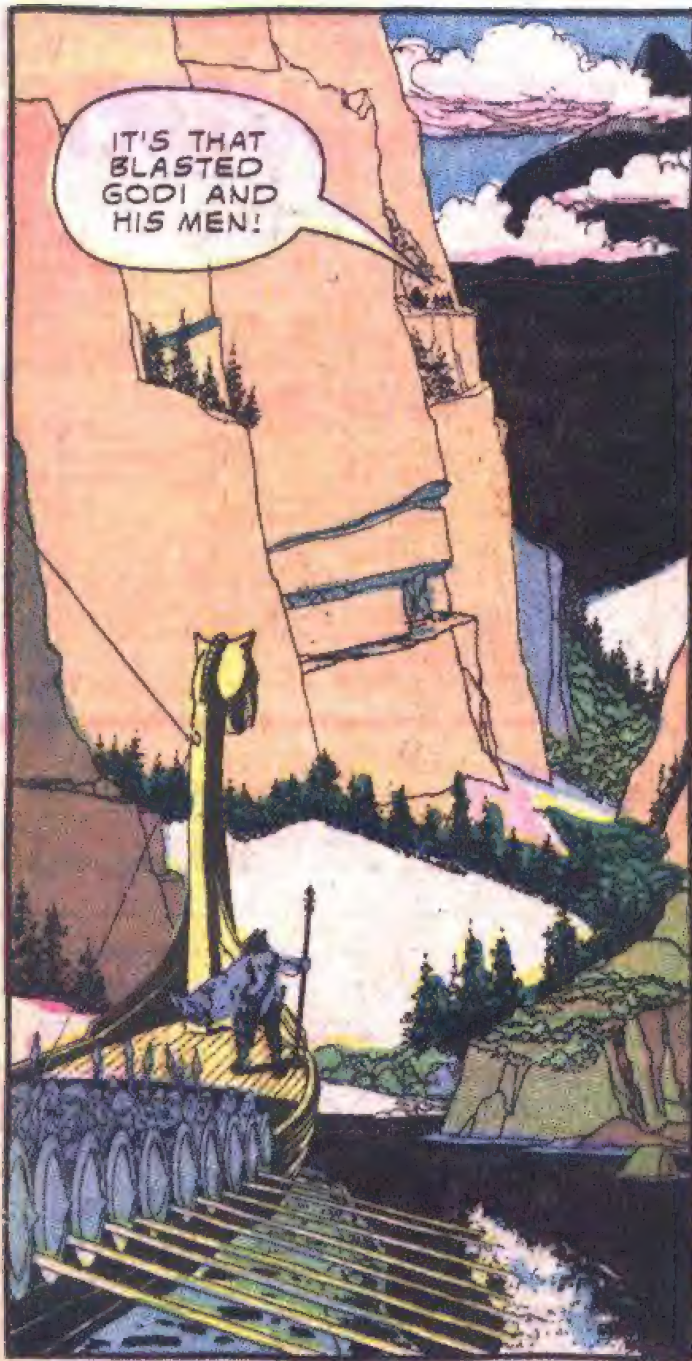




FREYJA LEADS THE WAY TO THE CAVE, HIGH ABOVE THE WATER, AND AT DAWN...



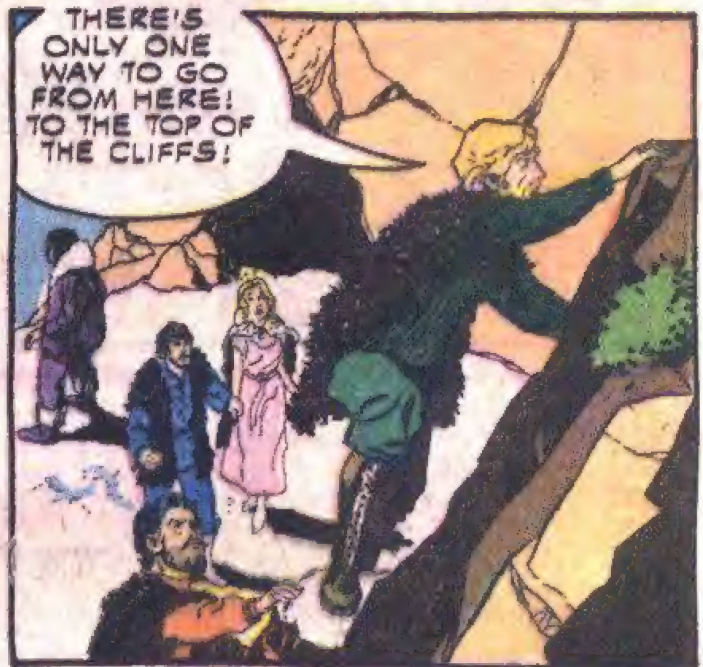




IT'S THAT  
BLASTED  
GODI AND  
HIS MEN!



DOGS! THEY'VE  
GOT HUNTING  
DOGS! THEY'LL  
SOON GET WIND  
OF US!



THERE'S  
ONLY ONE  
WAY TO GO  
FROM HERE!  
TO THE TOP OF  
THE CLIFFS!

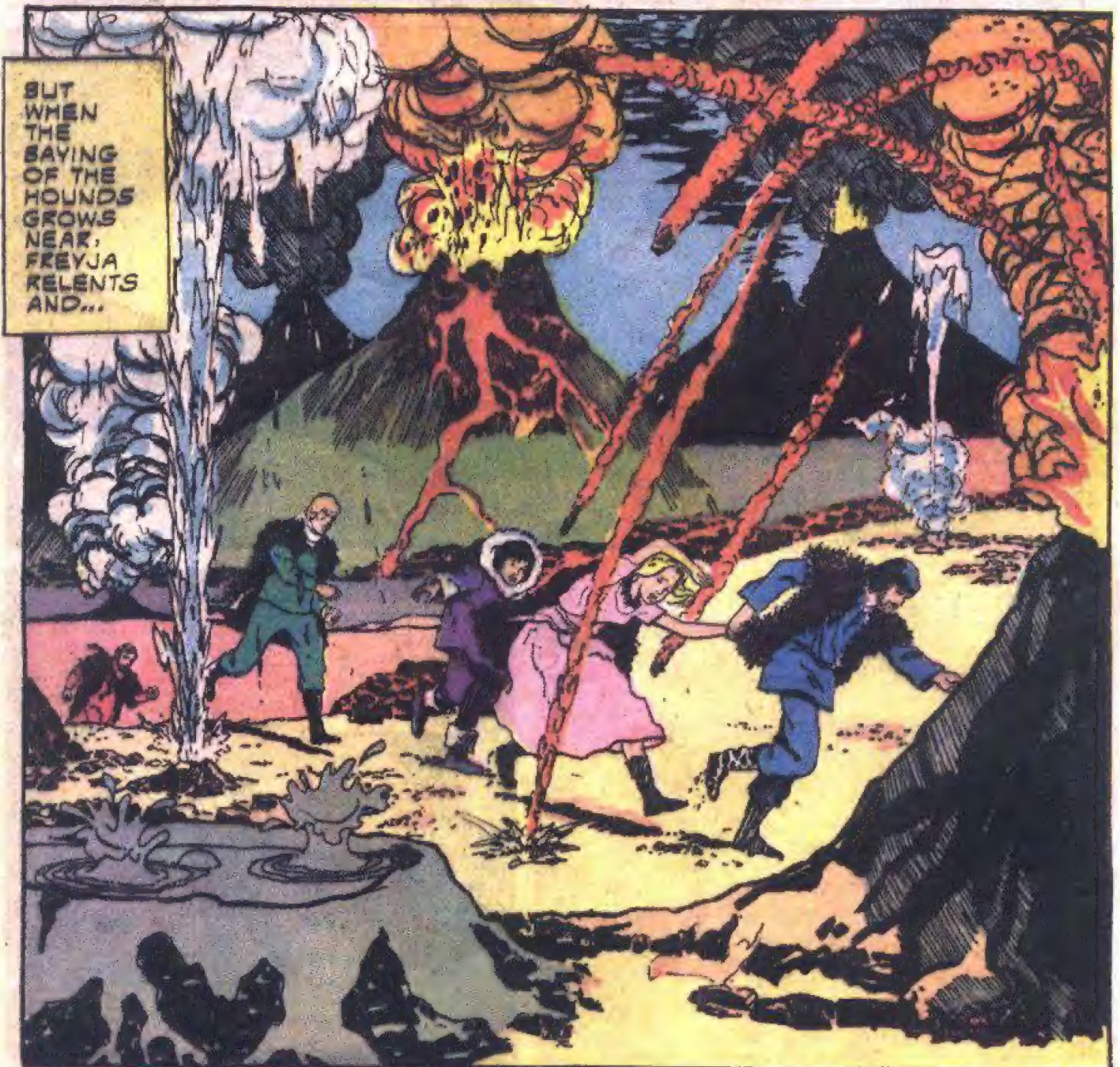
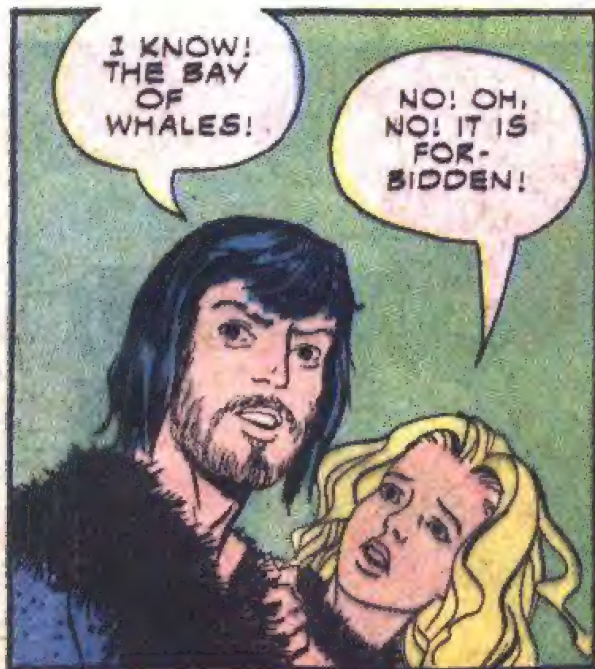


AT THE CREST  
OF THE  
MOUNTAINS,  
THE FUGITIVES  
FACE A  
DESOLATE  
LANDSCAPE...

INCREDIBLE!

BEASTLY! GAD,  
WHAT A PLACE!  
AND WE NEED TO  
HIDE! BUT WHERE?  
THEY MUST KNOW  
EVERY FOOT OF  
THIS ISLAND!









THE FUGITIVES RACE FOR SHELTER IN A NARROW CREVICE IN THE CLIFFS...





AT THE OTHER END OF  
THE ROCKY CORRIDOR...



AN INSTANT LATER...



THAT MUST HAVE THROWN  
THE GODI OFF OUR TRAIL!



BEFORE LONG, THE BURNING WASTE-  
LANDS ARE BEHIND, AND AHEAD IS ICE  
AND SNOW...AND THE FROZEN SEA...

WE GO  
DOWN!  
FIND ICE  
BOAT FLOAT!  
VERY GOOD!

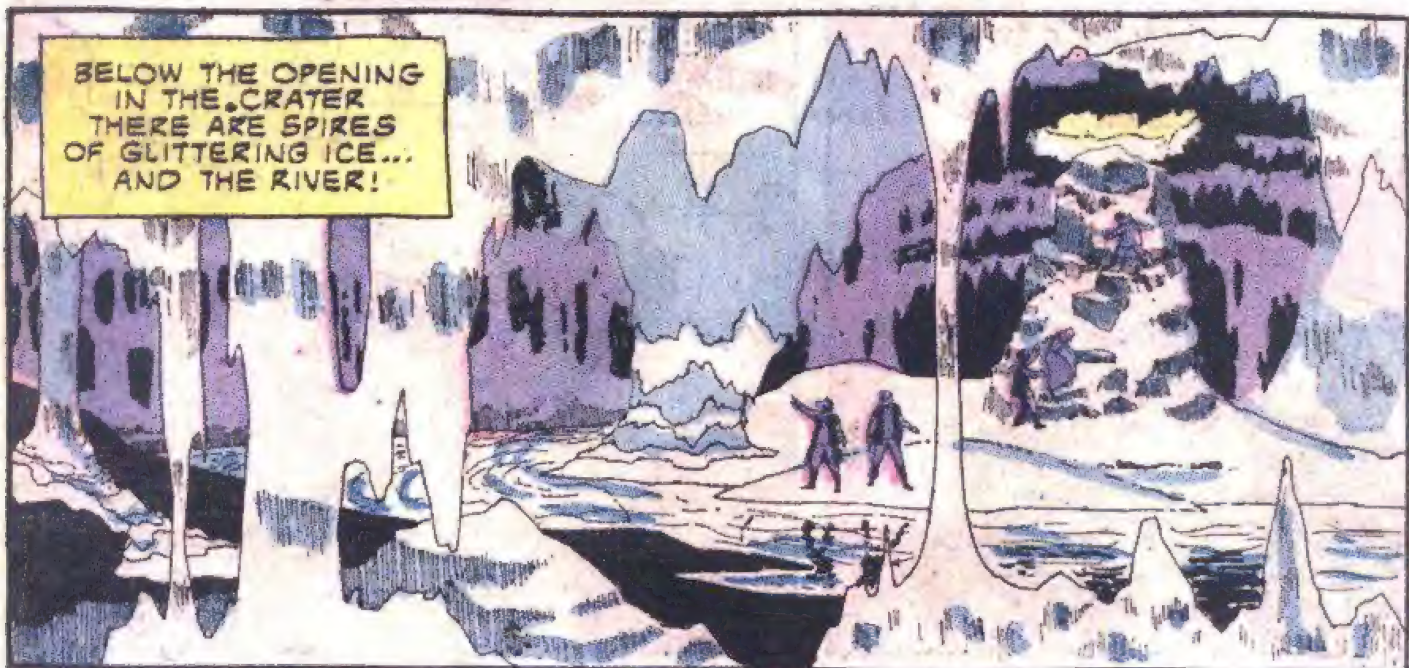
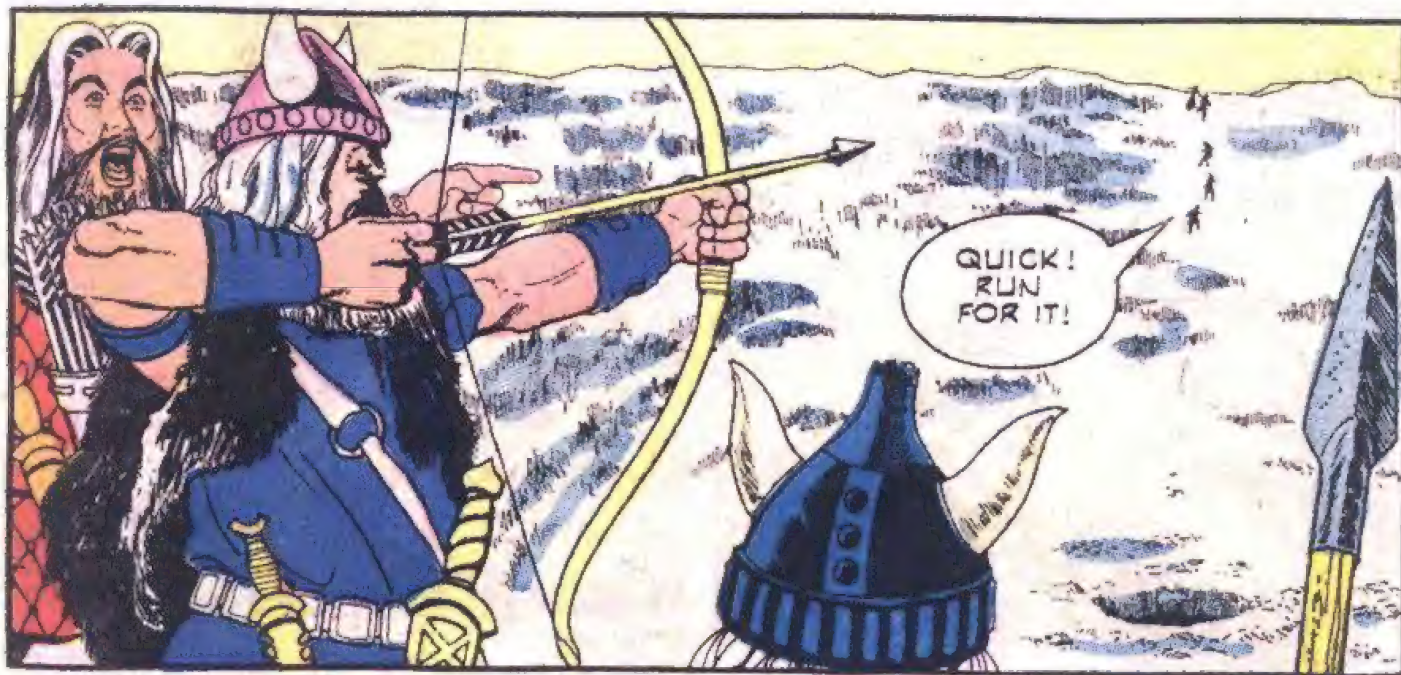
WHAT  
ON EARTH  
IS HE  
TALKING  
ABOUT?



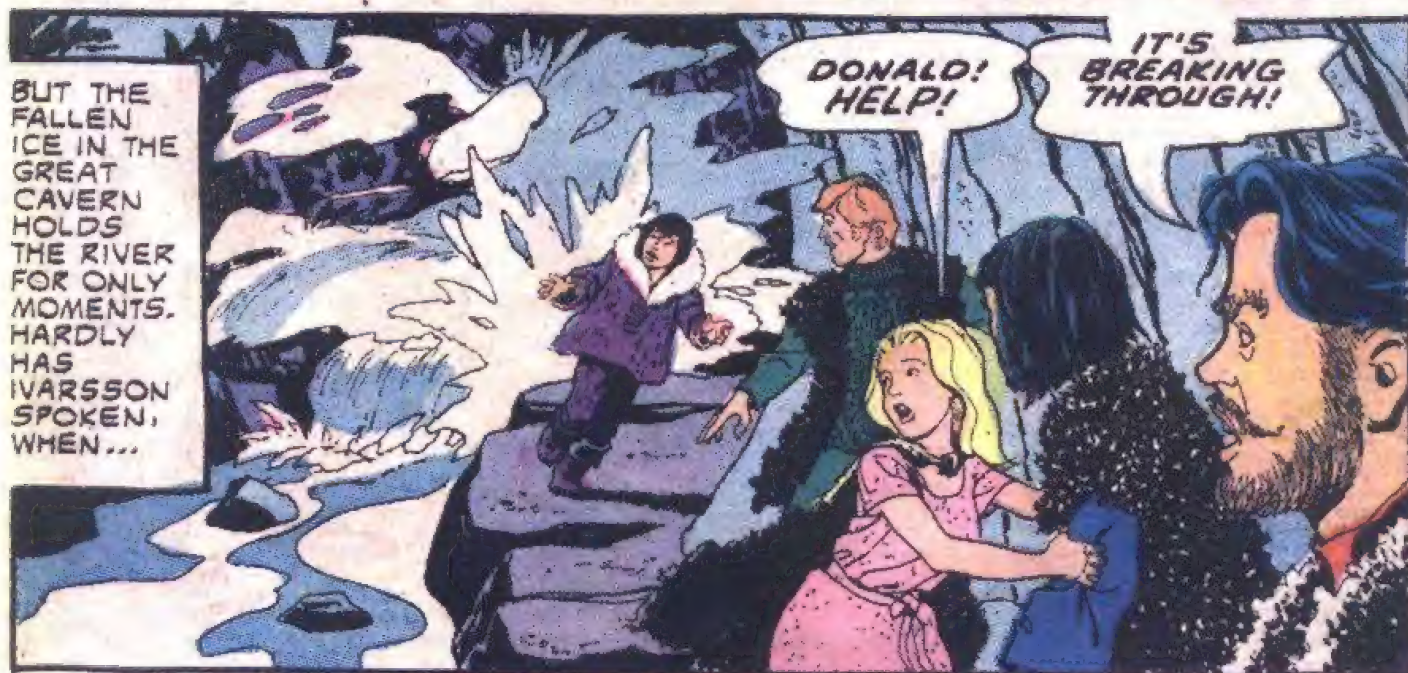












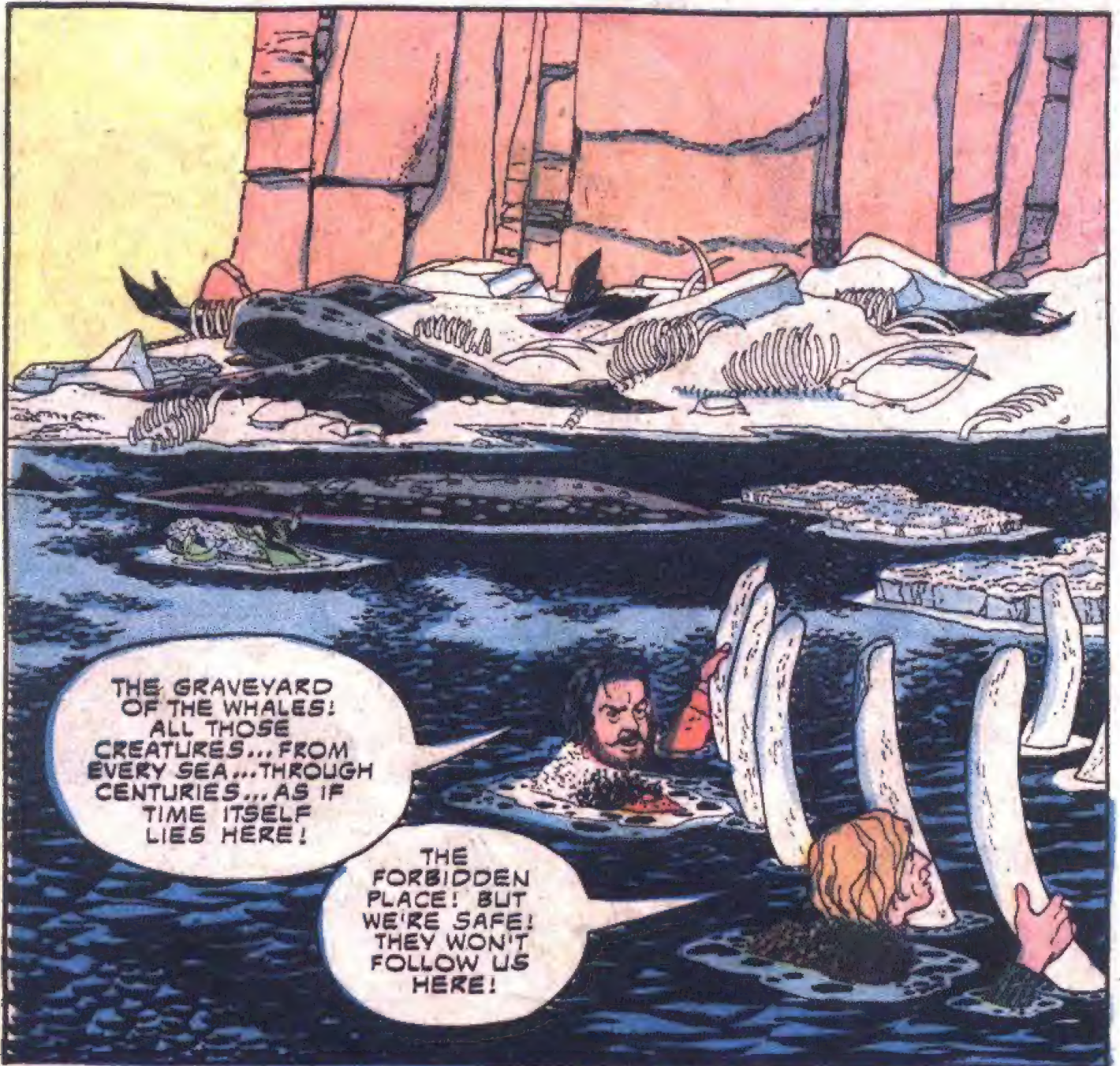
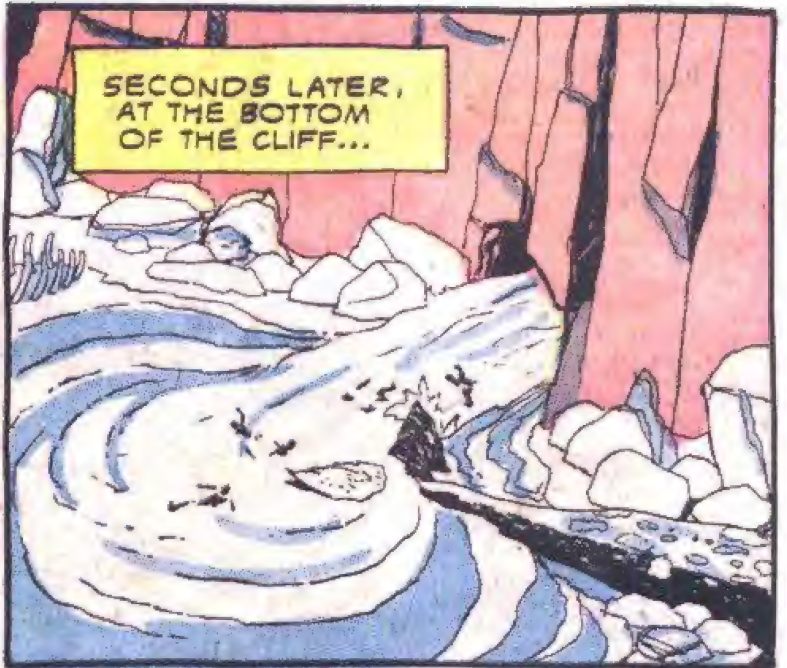


OOMIAK IS  
ENGULFED!

AAAGH!



SECONDS LATER,  
AT THE BOTTOM  
OF THE CLIFF...

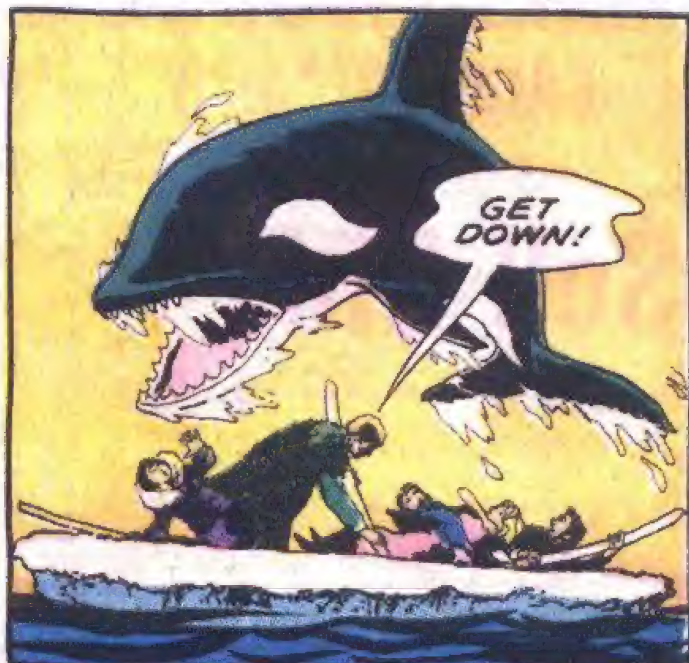


THE GRAVEYARD  
OF THE WHALES!  
ALL THOSE  
CREATURES... FROM  
EVERY SEA... THROUGH  
CENTURIES... AS IF  
TIME ITSELF  
LIES HERE!

THE  
FORBIDDEN  
PLACE! BUT  
WE'RE SAFE!  
THEY WON'T  
FOLLOW US  
HERE!



THE ADVENTURERS PUT OUT TO SEA ON A RAFT OF ICE, ONLY TO FACE A MENACE AS DEADLY AS THE GOD! AND HIS WRATH...



ONE OF THE KILLER WHALES ATTACKS AT TREMENDOUS SPEED... BUT SUDDENLY THERE IS A LOUD REPORT...



MORE SOUNDS OF SHOT RING OUT AND THE WOUNDED SEA BEASTS RETREAT...



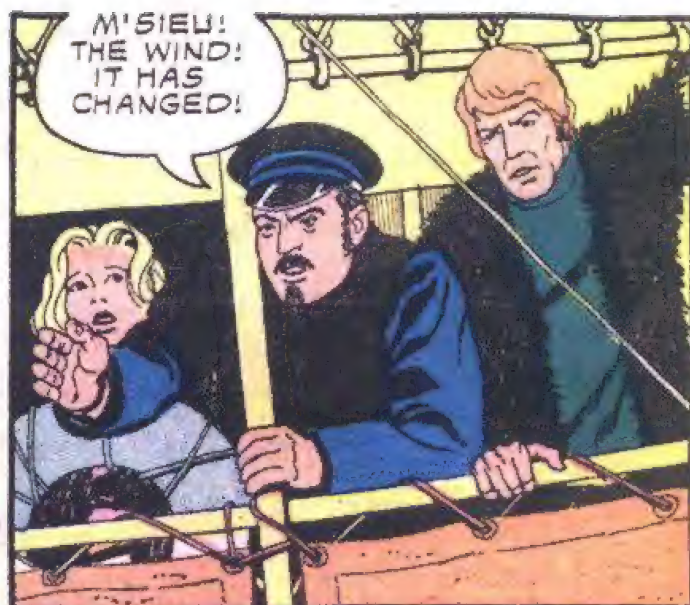


THE FUGITIVES WAIT WITH CAPTAIN BRIEUX UNTIL NIGHTFALL. THEN, WHEN THE WIND IS RIGHT, THEY CUT LOOSE THE CRIPPLED AIRSHIP...



WE ARE AGAIN A FREE-FLOATING BALLOON! SOON WE WILL BE IN GREENLAND!

UP THERE! THOSE CAMPFIRES... THE GODI AND HIS MEN ARE STILL WAITING FOR US! TOO BAD WE HAVE TO DISAPPOINT THEM!



IT WILL CARRY US BACK TO THE CLIFFS — TO THE GODI, AND HIS GUARDS!



BUT TO THE NORSEMEN, THE AIRSHIP APPEARS TO BE A STRANGE MONSTER RISING FROM THE SEA TO DEVOUR THEM...

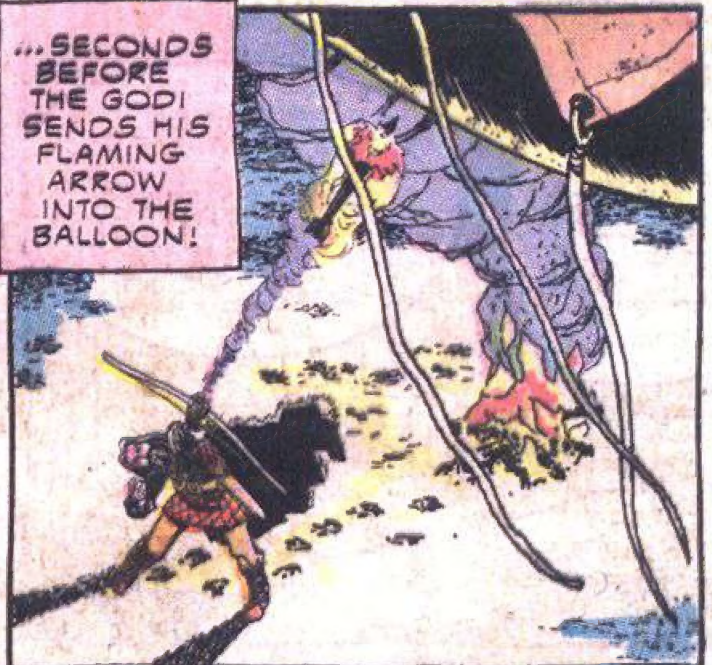
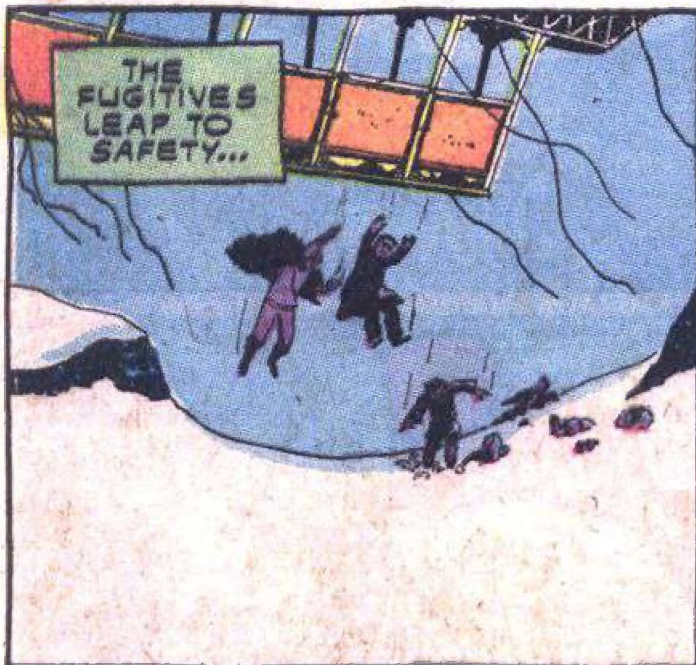
EEEEIGH!



AAAGH!



THOUGH HIS MEN DESERT HIM, THE GODI REFUSES TO FLEE. HE SEIZES A BOW AND THRUSTS AN INCENDIARY ARROW INTO THE FIRE...



THE AIRCRAFT EXPLODES IN A FIERY MASS, AS IT DROPS SUDDENLY ON THE FLEEING GODI BELOW...







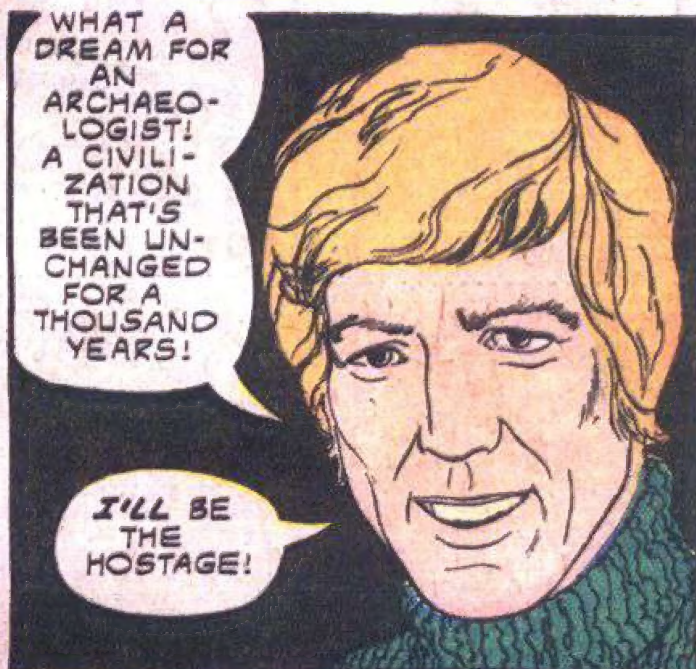
BUT, WITH THE GOD! NO LONGER ABLE TO STIR THE VIKINGS TO HATRED, THE VOYAGERS RETURN TO THE TOWN, WHERE THE COUNCIL ANNOUNCES A DIFFERENT VERDICT...

HE SAYS IT WAS THE GOD! WHO DID WRONG, LEADING THE PEOPLE TO HATRED AND VIOLENCE! WE MAY GO!



BUT WE MUST SWEAR A SOLEMN OATH NEVER TO TELL OF THIS ISLAND, AND WE MUST LEAVE A HOSTAGE!

A HOSTAGE? THAT'S... WHY, THAT'S WHAT I'D CALL AN OPPORTUNITY!



WHAT A DREAM FOR AN ARCHAEOLOGIST! A CIVILIZATION THAT'S BEEN UNCHANGED FOR A THOUSAND YEARS!

I'LL BE THE HOSTAGE!



I MUST SAY, IVARSSON SEEMS HAPPY ENOUGH! BUT WHAT A PITY WE CAN NEVER COME BACK HERE — TO THE BAY OF WHALES — AND THAT FORTUNE IN WHALEBONE AND AMBERGRIS! A TREASURE!

I DON'T NEED TO COME BACK! I FOUND WHAT I WAS LOOKING FOR...

WE CANNOT RETURN, NOR CAN WE EVER FORGET... THE ISLAND AT THE TOP OF THE WORLD!

the END



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